Chapter III

Vocabulary

calumny – a false and malicious statement meant to hurt someone’s reputation
harangue – long, blustering speech
pettifogging – using unethical methods in the law

1. Upon Luzhin’s arrival, Katerina Ivanovna beseeches him, as her father’s old acquaintance, to protect her from Amalia Ivanovna. Responding to Katerina’s ranting, Luzhin states, “Your papa as you are well aware I had not the honour of knowing…and I do not intend to take part in your everlasting squabbles with Amalia Ivanovna….” Why does Katerina claim that Luzhin knows her father?

2. What does Luzhin accuse Sonia of stealing? How does Katerina, in her efforts to protect Sonia, manage to make the situation worse?

3. How does Lebeziatnikov prove that Luzhin is falsely accusing Sonia?

4. Lebeziatnikov knows that Luzhin put the note in Sonia’s pocket, but he does not understand Luzhin’s reasons for wanting Sonia to look like a thief. How does Raskolnikov explain Luzhin’s motivation?

5. How does Luzhin respond when Raskolnikov exposes his plan? What does his reaction reveal about his personality?